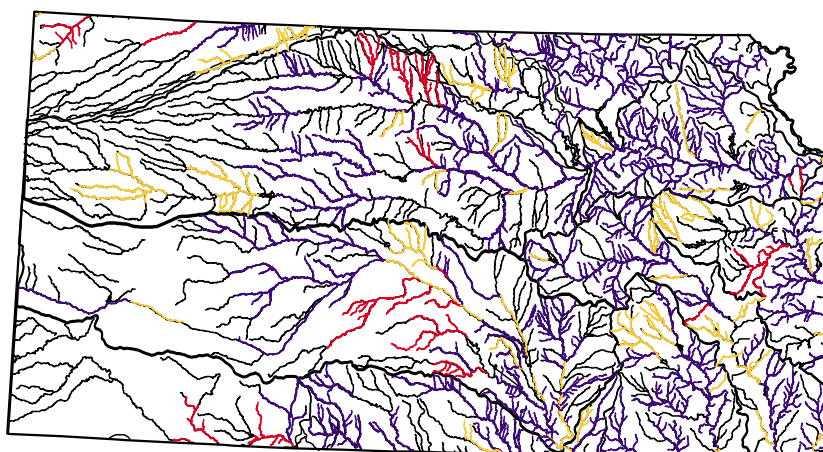


# Kansas



- Fully Supporting
- Threatened
- Partially Supporting
- Not Supporting
- Not Assessed
- Basin Boundaries  
(USGS 6-Digit Hydrologic Unit)

This map depicts aquatic life use support status.

For a copy of the Kansas 1998 305(b) report, contact:

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## Surface Water Quality

Kansas assessed water quality for 15,620 miles of streams during 1996-1997. Of these, 88% fully or partially support designated uses. Major causes of nonsupport are fecal coliform, organic enrichment, sulfates, and chlorides. Impairment of streams is attributed to agriculture, natural sources, hydromodification, and ground water withdrawal.

Of the public lakes assessed during the reporting period, 66% of the total acres are impaired for one or more uses. The major causes of impairment are sediment, turbidity, nutrients/eutrophication, and taste and odor problems. Agriculture

and natural sources are the major sources of impairment for lakes. The trophic status of 68% of the assessed lake acreage is stable over time.

Most wetlands are on private lands. Of the public wetlands assessed, 29% support aquatic life use but are considered threatened, while food procurement use is fully supported but threatened in 91% of wetlands. The major causes of impairment are excessive nutrient load, flow alterations, low dissolved oxygen, and turbidity/siltation. Agriculture, hydromodifications in watersheds, and natural processes are the sources of impairment. As part of a special wetland project, 25,069 wetland acres were monitored for toxics (heavy metals, pesticides, and ammonia); 4% were found to be impacted. Trophic status studies indicate that 52% of the wetlands are stable over time.

## Ground Water Quality

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) ground water quality monitoring network is composed of 242 different types of wells and conducts the primary ambient ground water monitoring in the state. Nitrate contamination is a major concern. During 1996-1997 high nitrate concentration accounted for about 82% of the documented exceedances of federal drinking water maximum contaminant levels in ground water. Other ground water concerns included volatile organic compounds, heavy metals, petroleum products, and/or bacteria. The major sources of these contaminants included active industrial facilities, spills, leaking storage tanks, mineral extraction, and agricultural activities.

## Programs to Restore Water Quality

A Local Environmental Protection Program provides financial assistance to 98 of the state's 105 counties to develop and implement a comprehensive plan for protection of the local environment.

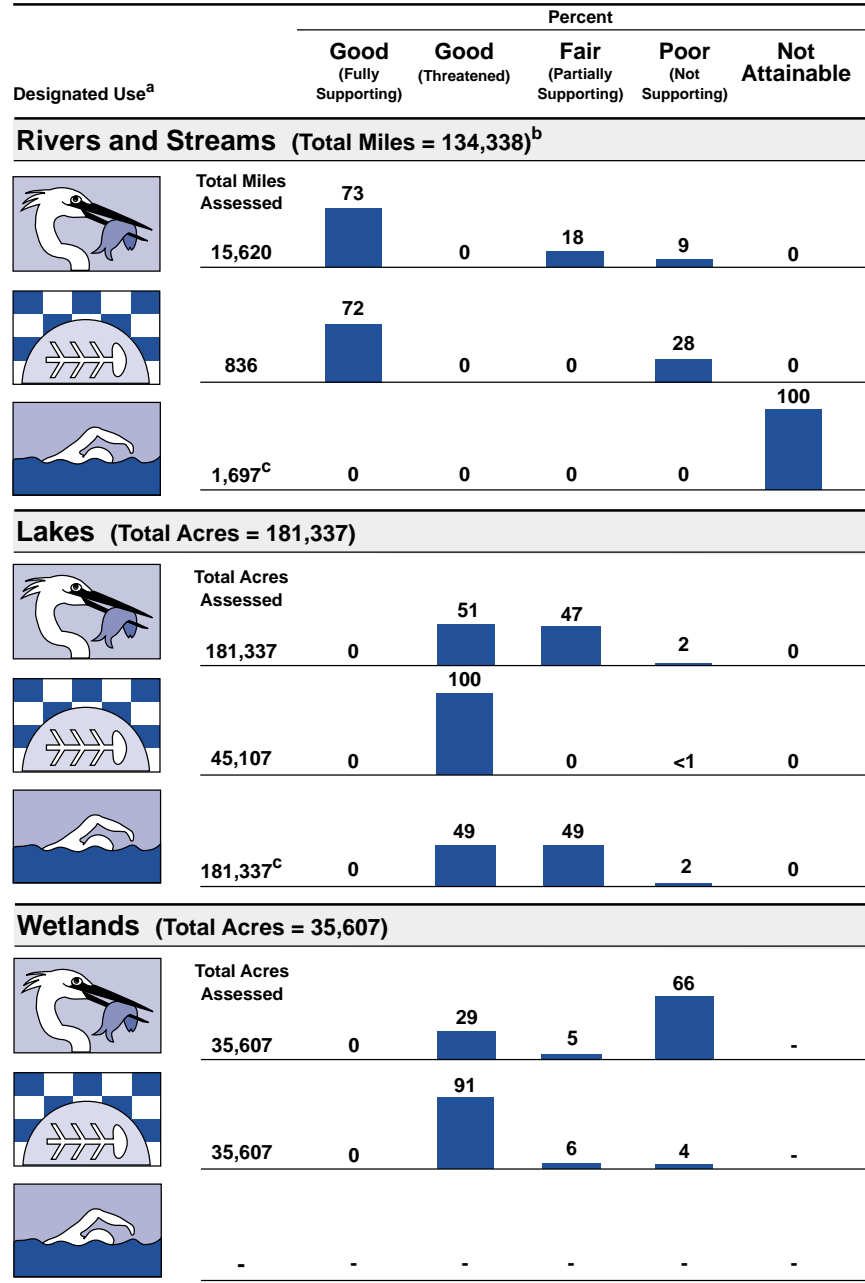
The Point Source Pollution Program regulates wastewater treatment systems of municipal, federal, industrial, and commercial sewage facilities, stormwater, and larger livestock operations. Smaller livestock facilities and other sources of pollutants are addressed by the Non Point Source Control Program. Directed funds, mainly to upgrade large wastewater treatment facilities serving cities, have resulted in documented water quality improvements at several locations.

All Clean Lakes Program projects are completed.

## Programs to Assess Water Quality

Every year, KDHE collects and analyzes about 1,500 surface water samples, 50 aquatic macroinvertebrate samples, and 40 composite fish tissue samples from stations located throughout the state. Wastewater samples are collected at about 50 municipal sewage treatment plants, 20 industrial facilities, and 3 federal facilities to evaluate compliance with discharge permit requirements. KDHE also conducts special studies and prepares about 100 site-specific water quality summaries at the request of private citizens or other interested parties.

## Individual Use Support in Kansas



- Not reported in a quantifiable format or unknown.

<sup>a</sup> A subset of Kansas' designated uses appear in this figure. Refer to the state's 305(b) report for a full description of the state's uses.

<sup>b</sup> Includes nonperennial streams that dry up and do not flow all year.

<sup>c</sup> Kansas designated uses do not address swimming beaches. Refer to the Kansas 305(b) report on contact recreational use.

Note: Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.